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INFERNO

THE NEW

MUTANTS



FOR OVER FIVE MILLION YEARS, HUMANKIND HAS RULED THE EARTH. NOW A NEW BREED EMERGES --
HOMO SUPERIOR -- BORN WITH A MUTANT GENETIC STRUCTURE THAT GIVES THEM MORE-THAN-HUMAN POWER.

THE NEW MUTANTS HAVE JUST ARRIVED
IN LIMBO, AN ELDRITCH DIMENSION ONCE
RULED BY ILLYANA RASPUTIN... CODE
NAME MAGIK... BUT CALLED BY SOME
THE DARKCHILDE.

LIMBO
LOOKS LIKE
TROUBLE!
PORT US OUT
OF HERE!
ILLYANA!
HURRY!

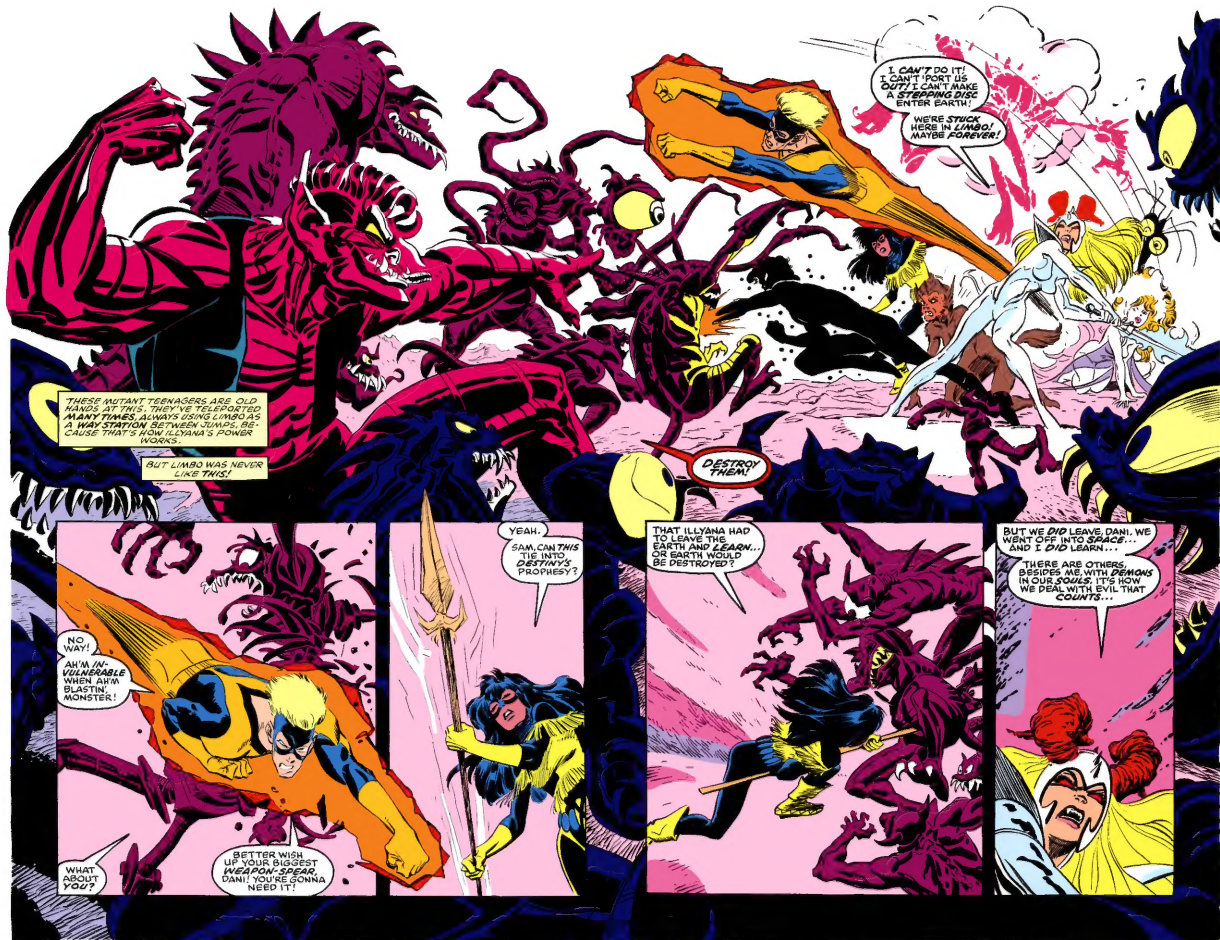
I'M
TRYING,
BOB! I'M
TRYING.

LIMBO

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION -- BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

LOUISE SIMONSON BRET BLEVINS AL WILLIAMSON JOE ROSEN GLYNIS OLIVER BOB HARRAS TOM DEFALCO
WRITER PENCILER INKER LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE NEW MUTANTS™ Vol. 1, No. 71, January, 1989. (ISSN #0747-4601) Published by MARVEL COMICS A NEW WORLD COMPANY. James E. Galt, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Holston, Group Vice-President, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 367 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010. Published monthly. Copyright © 1988 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.00 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate \$12.00 for 12 issues, Canada and Foreign, \$14.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE NEW MUTANTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue) and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO NEW MUTANTS, 367 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.



THESE INSTANT TEENAGERS ARE OLD HANDS AT THIS. THEY'VE TELEPORTED HUNDREDS OF TIMES. ALWAYS GOING LIMBO AS A WAY STATION BETWEEN DIMS, BECAUSE THAT'S HOW ILLYANA'S POWER WORKS.

BUT LIMBO WAS NEVER LIKE THIS!

DESTROY THEM!

I CAN'T DO IT!
I CAN'T PORT US OUT!
I CAN'T MAKE A STEPPING DISC ENTER EARTH!
WE'RE STUCK HERE IN LIMBO!
MAYBE FOREVER!

NO WAY!
AM I INVULNERABLE WHEN FEAR BLASTS, MONSTER!

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

BETTER WISH YOUR BIGGEST WISH COMES TRUE, DAN! YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT!

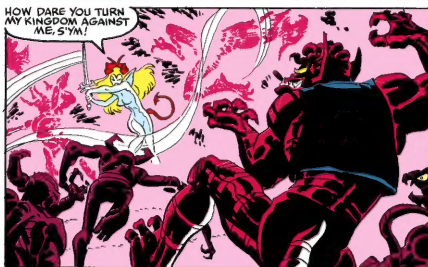
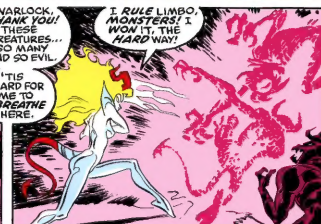
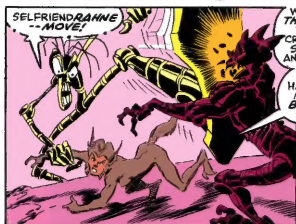
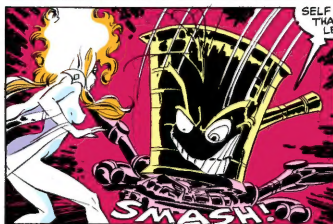
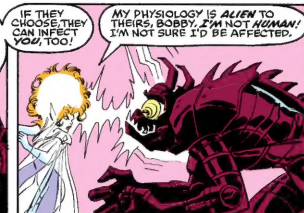
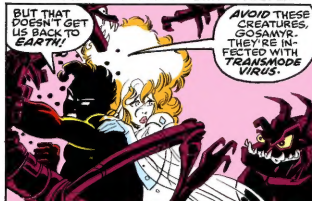
YEAH...
SAY, CAN THIS TIE INTO DESTINY'S PROPHECY?

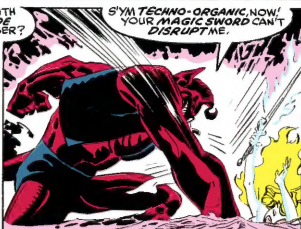
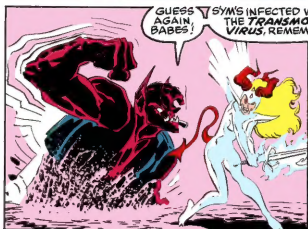
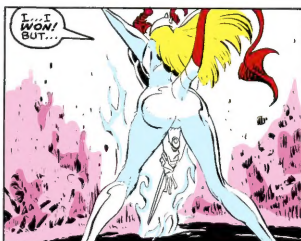
THAT ILLYANA HAD TO LEAVE THE EARTH AND LEARN... OR EARTH WOULD BE DESTROYED?

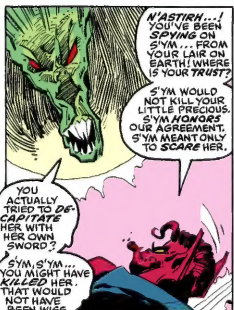
BUT WE DID LEAVE, DAN! WE WENT OFF INTO SPACE... AND I DID LEARN...

THERE ARE OTHERS, BESIDES ME WITH DEMONS IN OUR SOULS. IT'S HOW WE DEAL WITH EVIL THAT COUNTS...

"...AND IT HELPED TO FIND OUT I'M NOT ALONE..."

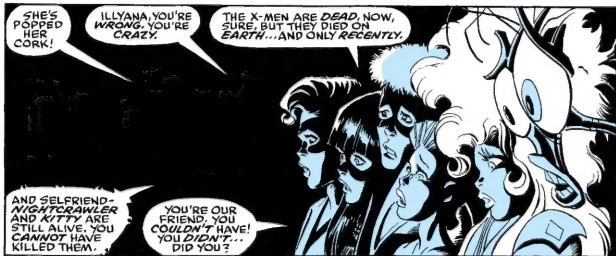
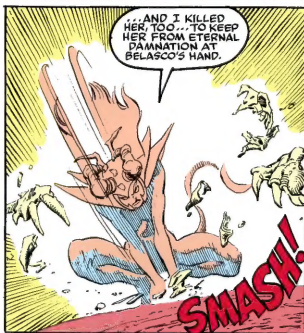
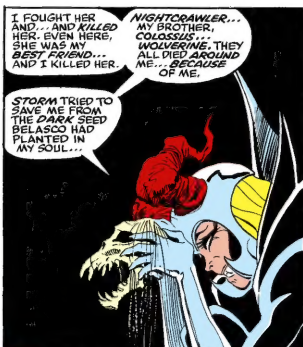


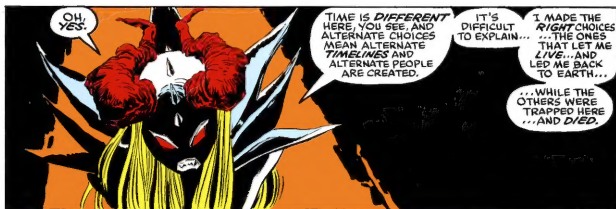




"ASK ME NICELY, AND I SHALL FIND THE DARK-CHILDE AND DELIVER HER TO YOU..."







OH, YES.

TIME IS *DIFFERENT* HERE, YOU SEE, AND ALTERNATE CHOICES MEAN ALTERNATE *TIMELINES* AND ALTERNATE PEOPLE ARE CREATED.

IT'S DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN...

I MADE THE *RIGHT* CHOICES... THE ONES THAT LET ME *LIVE*... AND LED ME BACK TO EARTH...

...WHILE THE OTHERS WERE TRAPPED HERE... AND *DIED*.



YOU SOUND ALMOST... *PROUD* OF YOURSELF.

SOMETIMES, IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE, PEOPLE DIE. BUT *MURDER*, ILLYANA?! FOR ANY REASON?

IT'S THIS TERRIBLE *PLACE*. THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT WHEN WE'RE HOME. PLEASE...! LET'S GO HOME!

ILLYANA *IS* HOME!

WHY... DIDN'T YOU TELL US THIS BEFORE? WHY ARE YOU SAYING THIS NOW? IT CAN'T BE TRUE. IT CAN'T.



DEMONS!

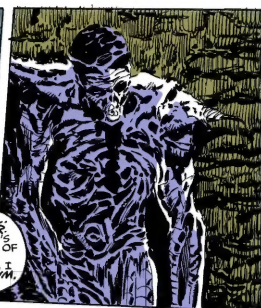
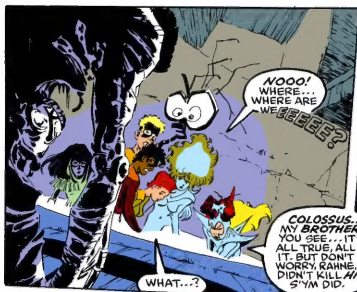
THERE THEY ARE!

MASTER TRACED THEM HERE!



GET THEM!

NO!





WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ILLYANA? HAVE YOU GONE MAD? SHE'S JUST A WEAK CHILD, AN INNOCENT BABY.

RAHNE-- STOP!

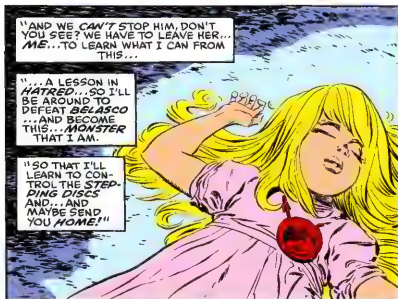
WE HAVE TO SAVE HER?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ANYTHING? THAT... BABY IS ME, THE WAY I WAS WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE.

DURING THAT LAST JUMP, WE TELEPORTED IN TIME, AS WELL AS SPACE, INTO THE PAST. MY PAST.

S'YM'S... PUNISHING ME FOR SOME... IMAGINED TRANSGRESSION.

HE DID THAT WHENEVER HE COULD CATCH ME. I REMEMBER. I... DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER.



"AND WE CAN'T STOP HIM, DON'T YOU SEE? WE HAVE TO LEAVE HER... ME... TO LEARN WHAT I CAN FROM THIS..."

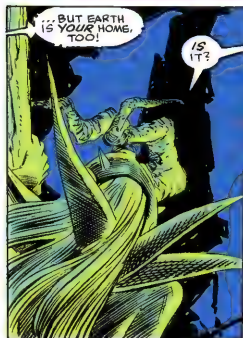
"...A LESSON IN HATRED... SO I'LL BE AROUND TO DEFEAT BELASCO... AND BECOME THIS... MONSTER THAT I AM.

"SO THAT I'LL LEARN TO CONTROL THE STEPPING DISCS AND... AND MAYBE SEND YOU HOME!"



THAT'S... TOO HIGH A PRICE TO PAY.

SELFRIEND... YOU SPEAK OF SENDING ONLY US TO EARTH...



... BUT EARTH IS YOUR HOME, TOO!

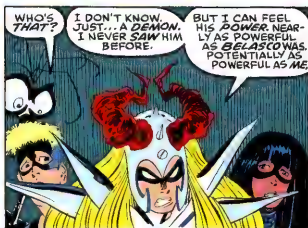
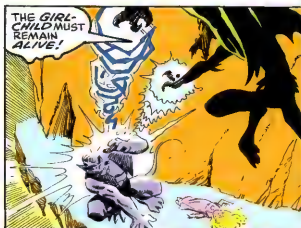
IS IT?

S'YM NEVER KILLED ME... AND HE COULD HAVE, SO EASILY.

I... WONDER WHY.



COME ON, RAHNE. LET'S GO. I... DON'T THINK... WHAT'S COMING... IS SOMETHING YOU OUGHT TO WATCH.



WHILE
HERE
AND
NOW...

IT'S GROWING...

...THE
EMPIRE
STATE
BUILDING
IS GROW-
ING.

BUT...THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE...
ISN'T IT, MAGNUS?

WHEN SHAW
SUMMONED
THE HELLFIRE
CLUB'S INNER
CIRCLE, MISS
FROST, I AD-
MIT I CAME
RELUCTANTLY.

MY STUDENTS WERE
MISSING AND I THOUGHT
SHAW WAS EXAGGERATING
THE PROBLEM. BUT...

IT'S ALMOST
PALPABLE, ISN'T
IT? EVEN WITH-
OUT MY TELE-
PATHIC POWER,
I'M CERTAIN I
WOULD FEEL IT.
SOMETHING
IN THE AIR,
SOMETHING...
EVIL.

THE TOURISTS ON
THE OBSERVATION
DECK BELOW SEEM
MORE DISTURBED
BY THE WEATHER...

DIDN'T
KNOW WE'D
BE SO HIGH.
TOO BAD
'BOUT TH'
HAZE.

IF IT'D JUST
LET UP, BET I
COULD SEE
ALL THE WAY
TA--

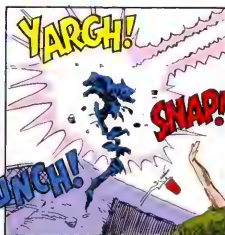
YAARGH!

MY EYES!
MY EYES!

MY EYES.
NOW!

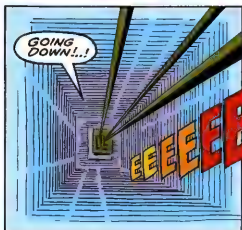
BLINK!
BLINK!

LIKE
'EM?



WE'VE LACED YOUR COSTUMES WITH THREADS OF STEEL... A PRECAUTION THAT PAID OFF!





WHILE IN A FAR DIMENSION AND AN EARLIER TIME...

WELCOME, DARKCHILDE, TO MY LITTLE CORNER OF LIMBO.

THIS SLOT'S OCCUPIED, ILLYANA. WE BETTER SPLIT!

I THINK NOT! TAKE THEM!

YOU'RE N'ASTIRH... THE DEMON WHO STOPPED S'YMA FROM KILLING ME. WHY--?

I HAVE WATCHED YOU THROUGH **PRECOGNITIVE MAGICK**, AND HAVE SUMMONED YOU INTO THE PAST, VIA A **TRANSPORT SPELL** OF MY OWN DEVISING...

...MORE CUMBERSOME THAN YOUR ELEGANT, **NATURAL** APPROACH, BUT AS EFFECTIVE, IN ITS WAY.

I NEED TO SPEAK TO YOU PRIVATELY...

WHO ARE YOU--?

A POOR DEMON, SCORNB BY BELASCO FOR APPRENTICESHIP. HE PREFERRED **HUMAN** STUDENTS, YOU SEE...

...AND THOUGHT DEMONS GOOD ONLY FOR SERVANTS. BELASCO CHOSE STORM... AND THEN YOU, A MERE CHILD, OVER ME.

BUT I STOLE BELASCO'S MAIN BOOK OF SPELLS BEFORE YOU COULD DESTROY IT...

...TRAVELED INTO THE FAR PAST, AND NOW, I HAVE **MASTERED** THEM. ALL OF THEM.

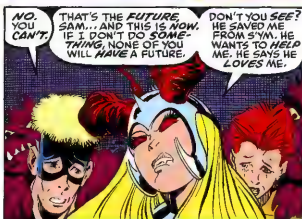
YOU SEE... I HAVE A **NATURAL AFFINITY** FOR DARKEST MAGICK.

S'YMA'S ARMY IS MASSES FOR INVASION. I WILL HELP YOU DEFEAT HIM, SAVE YOUR FRIENDS, **ESCAPE** TO EARTH...

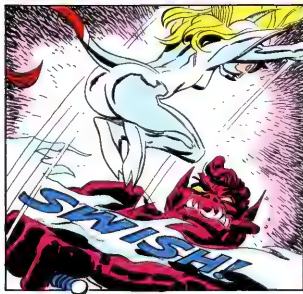
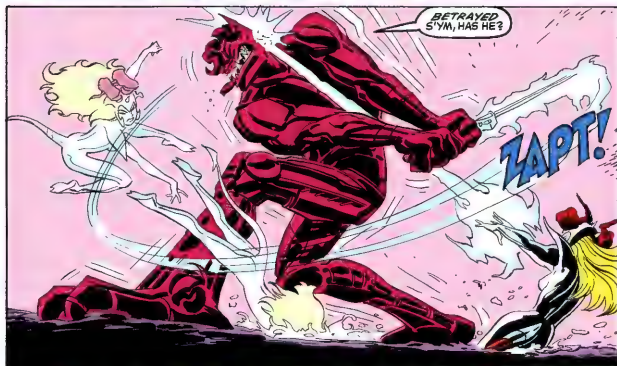
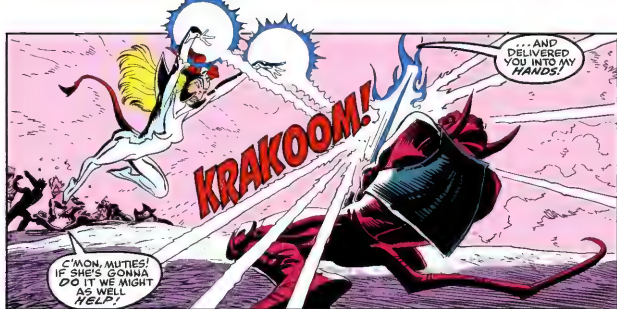
IN DEALING WITH DEMONS, THERE'S ALWAYS A PRICE--?

YOU WOUND ME, DARKCHILDE.

I OFFER HELP BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.







BULLPEN MINI BULLETINS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Boy, the best way to keep a fantastic secret is to tell everyone. Then nobody believes it!

-Ben, SOLARMAN #1

ITEM: It isn't every day one of our Marvel super heroes gets a plug from the Chief Executive of the United States—that's right, President Ronald Reagan—but that's just what happened last May 3 on Baltimore's 11 o'clock news on WMAR's Channel 2 Newsroom! When asked whether he reads his horoscope in the daily newspaper, Mr. Reagan replied, "Every morning I start the day the first thing I read in the paper are the comics. I'm just dying right now to see how Spider-Man is going to get out from under that great big heavy wrestler." We trust the President did find out how our wondrous web-slinger escaped that particular dilemma in our popular daily Spider-Man strip (still written by The Man himself, Stan Lee). What we want to know is how the President managed to escape answering the newsmen's question about astrology! (Maybe the Chief dazzled him with web-fluid!)

ITEM: Last month we told you how we've taken our Assistant Editors Workshop on the road to various summer comics conventions. The time we're going to spill the beans about another convention attention-getter sponsored by Marvel's wacky staffers unleashed upon an unsuspecting fandom from Atlanta to San Diego this season was a little program entitled "The Marvel Madmen Strike Back!" Those who attended thought they were in for a standard Q and A session, but instead, they got to see some of their batty Bullpeners improving outrageous antics and sassy kapens, reinforcing Marvel's rep as not only a major force but also a major force in the comics industry. Picture, if you will, editors Howard Mackie, Bobbie Chase, and Terry Kavanagh

demonstrating their juggling prowess! Picture a Pitt-Juice Chug-Out between X-MEN writer Chris Claremont and Exec Editor Mark Gruenwald (Chris won—he mutated the meat!). Picture Editor in Chief Tom DeFalco on his hands and knees as the foundation of a human pyramid. (All right—so it wasn't Stan Lee at Carnegie Hall! What is?)

ITEM: On Thursday, July 14th, the magnificent Marvel Bullpeners played the second of three softball games against the diabolical DC Bullets. Although we maintained a steady lead throughout the game, DC dazzled us with some dynamic ball playing in the final inning to pull ahead and win the game 4-2. Their victory has the same at one apiece and the rubber match is scheduled for September 8 in Central Park. We'll let you know how it went (if they don't beat us to it—up!).

CHECKLIST

- ☐ DAREDEVIL #262
- ☐ SEMPER FI #2
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #40
- ☐ WOLFPACK Limited Series #6
- ☐ G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #17
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #46
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #10
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #28 & #29
- ☐ EX CALIBUR #4
- ☐ STRIKE FORCE: MORITURI #25
- ☐ TALES OF G.I. JOE #13
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #349
- ☐ SOLD AVENGERS #14
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #311
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #71

- ☐ SOLARMAN #1
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #66
- ☐ WOLVERINE #3
- ☐ MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #70
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #351
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #219
- ☐ AVENGERS #299
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #214
- ☐ G.I. JOE #82
- ☐ PUNISHER #15
- ☐ SILVER SURFER #19
- ☐ UNCANNY X-MEN #240
- ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #29

- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #11
- ☐ SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER Limited Series #3
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #322
- ☐ IRON MAN #238
- ☐ SPEEDBALL #4
- ☐ THOR #399
- ☐ POWER PACK #43
- ☐ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #146
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #48
- ☐ X-FACTOR
- ☐ X-TERMINATORS Limited Series #4

- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #2
- ☐ G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS #5
- ☐ THE 'NAM #26
- ☐ MARVEL MAGAZINES SPIDER-MAN COMICS MAG #13
- ☐ THE 'NAM SWORD #6
- ☐ SAVAGE SWOARD OF CONAN #155
- ☐ CONAN SAGA #28
- ☐ MARVEL BOOKSHELF
- ☐ NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. Graphic Album
- ☐ G.I. JOE Trade Paperback
- ☐ MARVEL MASTERWORKS: THE AVENGERS

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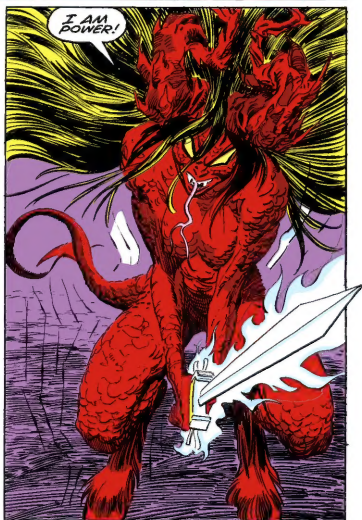
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I HAVE THE SWORD, DEATH, AND YOU ARE NOTHING! EACH IS SAFE FROM YOUR GROUND...

...AND THE STEPPING DISKS ARE AGAIN, KING TO COMMAND!

SO HARD... SOME RESIDUAL BARRIER STILL BLOCKS THE WAY. PUSH AGAINST IT... THROUGH IT... WITH ALL MY POWER...

...FORCE MY WAY THROUGH...

ILLYANA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WE AREN'T AT THE SCHOOL, WE'RE OVER TIMES SQUARE!

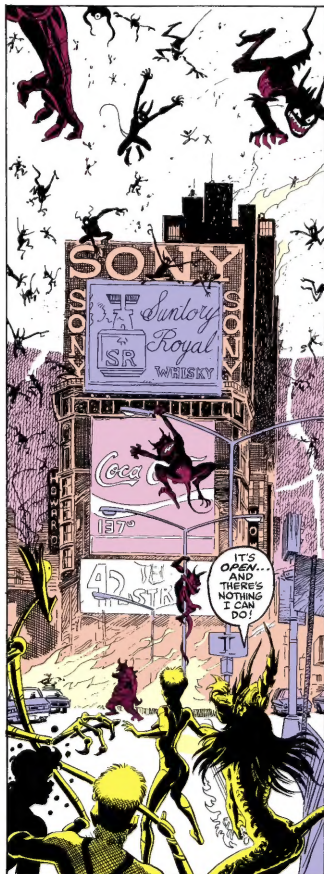
TO EARTH...

INDEED, SELF-RENDERING FALL OVER!

LIMBS RAINING DOWN... A DEMON ARROW! ILLYANA, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!

CLOSE THE STEPPING DISK, ILLYANA! FOR HERBY'S CAKE-- CLOSE IT!

I'M TRYING, SAM... BUT I CAN'T



MANHATTAN TRANSFORMED!
INFERNO IS HERE!

MINUTEMEN



Syl3nt Bob